



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Washington Fish and Wildlife Office  
Restoration Programs

Notification of Funding Availability  
Habitat Restoration Programs  
Fiscal Year 2012

**General Information**

Every year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Washington Fish and Wildlife Office receives funds to help restore important and rare habitats in Washington State. We provide this notification to inform current and potential new partners about Service Programs that are available to provide technical assistance as well as partially fund cooperative habitat restoration projects.

This notification contains information about our habitat restoration Programs. Technical assistance and funding for restoration projects are available through the **Puget Sound Coastal Program (PSCP)**, **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (PFW)**, and **Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program (CFRP)**, **National Fish Passage Program (NFPP)**, and the **Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI)**. For Program specific information, see Table 1 and pages 10-13.

We recommend that you read this notification in its entirety, determine if you have a potential project that would meet one or more of our Program goals, contact us to discuss potential projects, and then submit information to us about your project. You may use our Project Summary sheet or similar document (such as an application for a grant) to describe the project. Your response to this notification helps us learn about potential restoration opportunities and partnerships in Washington so we can strategically allocate personnel and funding to maximize conservation benefits for fish and wildlife.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offers many more opportunities to partner in conservation of fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats. Information on other Service programs can be found on the web at: <http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/landowners2.html>

**Note:** In the past we have also included information regarding our office's Recovery Program. This year, due to the differences in administering these programs, information about our Recovery Program has been provided via a separate notification. The Recovery Program will not be reviewing projects submitted under this NOFA.

**Working Together**

Service biologists are available on a year-round basis to review and assist with development of projects. However, to best evaluate projects, align them with funding and technical assistance Programs, and meet fiscal-year contracting deadlines, we work under the following action schedule described below and summarized in the Table 2. Please note that changes to this schedule could occur should funding to our agency be delayed for fiscal year 2012.

Partners interested in restoration projects should contact a Service biologist (see page 7) to discuss the potential project. To assist you in presenting your project ideas to us, we have put a project summary sheet on our web site at: [http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/funding\\_NOFA.html](http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/funding_NOFA.html). We will accept other forms of project summaries, such as applications for grants, as long as they cover all the topics contained in our summary sheet.

Interdisciplinary teams will evaluate the proposed projects and make recommendations for funding. Final decisions regarding project selection are made by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Office (WFWO) manager or at our Regional Office in Portland, Oregon. The Service does fund some projects outside of this process to maximize ecological benefits, meet specific Program goals, and provide flexibility to our partners. Project partners will be notified of their project status in the spring of 2012 if not earlier. Projects that are not selected may be referred to other funding sources as appropriate.

Table 1. Program eligibility summary.

	<b>Puget Sound Coastal Program</b>	<b>Partners for Fish and Wildlife</b>	<b>Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program</b>
<b>Geographic Focus Area.</b>	Watersheds by WRIA** 1-7, 11-18	Watersheds by WRIA** 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 18, 22-25, 28, 34 37 - 39, 44, 48, 62	Grays Harbor and Chehalis River basins. Watersheds by WRIA** 22 and 23
<b>On-the-ground Work?</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Outreach and Education?</b>	Yes, if part of on the ground project	Yes, if part of on the ground project	Yes
<b>Assessment and Research?</b>	Yes, if part of an on the ground project.	No	Assessment only
<b>Maximum \$ per project</b>	\$25,000-\$35,000	\$25,000	Approximately \$50,000
<b>Cost share Requirement (also see p. 12)</b>	Prefer 50%*, 25% minimum	Prefer 50%*	Prefer 50%*, Approximately 25% minimum
<b>Minimum years maintained by cooperator/ landowner</b>	10	10	10
<b>Projects on Federal land?</b>	Yes - preference is for non-Federal	No	Yes - preference is for non-Federal
<b>Projects on State land?</b>	Yes	No	Yes
<b>Are Federal and State partners eligible?</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes

\* A 50% cost share is the same as a 1:1 cost share. In other words, if you are requesting \$20,000, you would need to have \$20,000 in match.

\*\* WRIA maps can be found at the following link: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/apps/watersheds/wriapages/index.html>

Table 2. Action Schedule

Action Date	Action
Throughout the year	Service biologists provide technical assistance to partners interested in project development.
<p><b>September 12, 2011</b> National Fish Passage Program and Western Native Trout Initiative</p> <p><b>October 14, 2011</b> Puget Sound Coastal Program Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program</p>	<p>Partners contact program biologists and submit a project summary form or equivalent. A template for this information is available at: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/funding_NOFA.html">http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/funding_NOFA.html</a></p> <p>You may submit your Summary Project Information by email to the biologist listed on table 4, or to: <a href="mailto:projects@fws.gov">projects@fws.gov</a> or mail a compact disk with your Project Summary to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Attention: NOFA 510 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503</p>
By <b>January 15, 2012</b>	Service biologists notify partners of priority restoration projects, those that may be supported financially (dependent on Congressional funding) or through in-kind services, technical assistance, or other substantial involvement.
<b>February – April, 2012</b>	Service biologists work with partners to complete cooperative agreements and other federal contracting documents, and initiate required Federal, State, Tribal or local environmental compliance and permitting.
<b>Spring 2012</b>	Funds become available to partners (subject to final Service budget).

Funding for each of our Programs is contingent upon Congressional and Service authorization. Approximate amounts of Program funds anticipated available in FY 2012 are indicated in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Potential Program Funding FY 2011

Program	Amount (\$)
Puget Sound Coastal Program	160,000 – 200,000
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	150,000 – 200,000
Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program	150,000 – 200,000
National Fish Passage Program	Undetermined
Western Native Trout Imitative	Undetermined

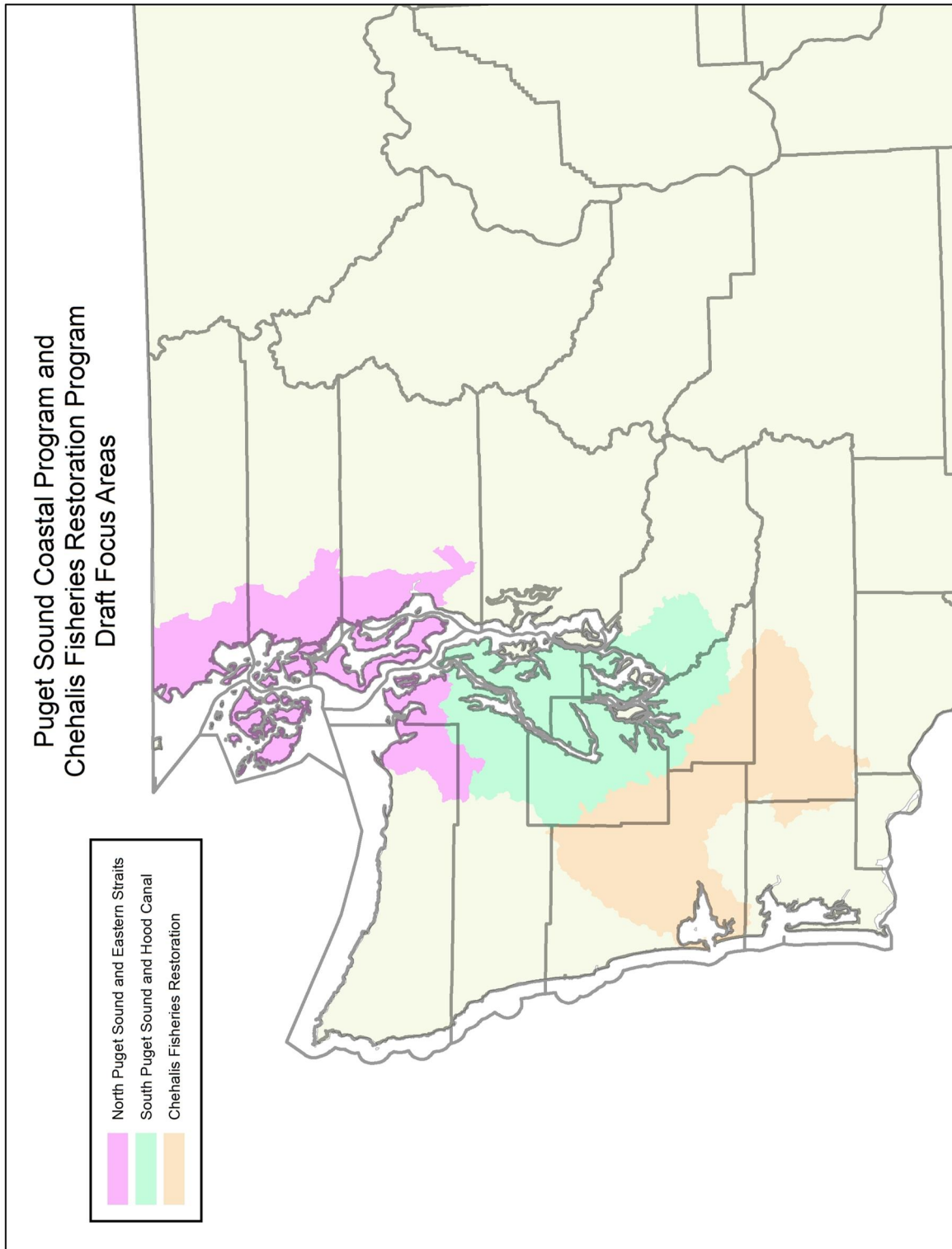
### **Who Are Our Partners**

Any private individual, State, Tribe, nonprofit organization, community group (such as a watershed team), land trust, corporation, individual entity, or Federal entity (only for some Programs, see Table 2).

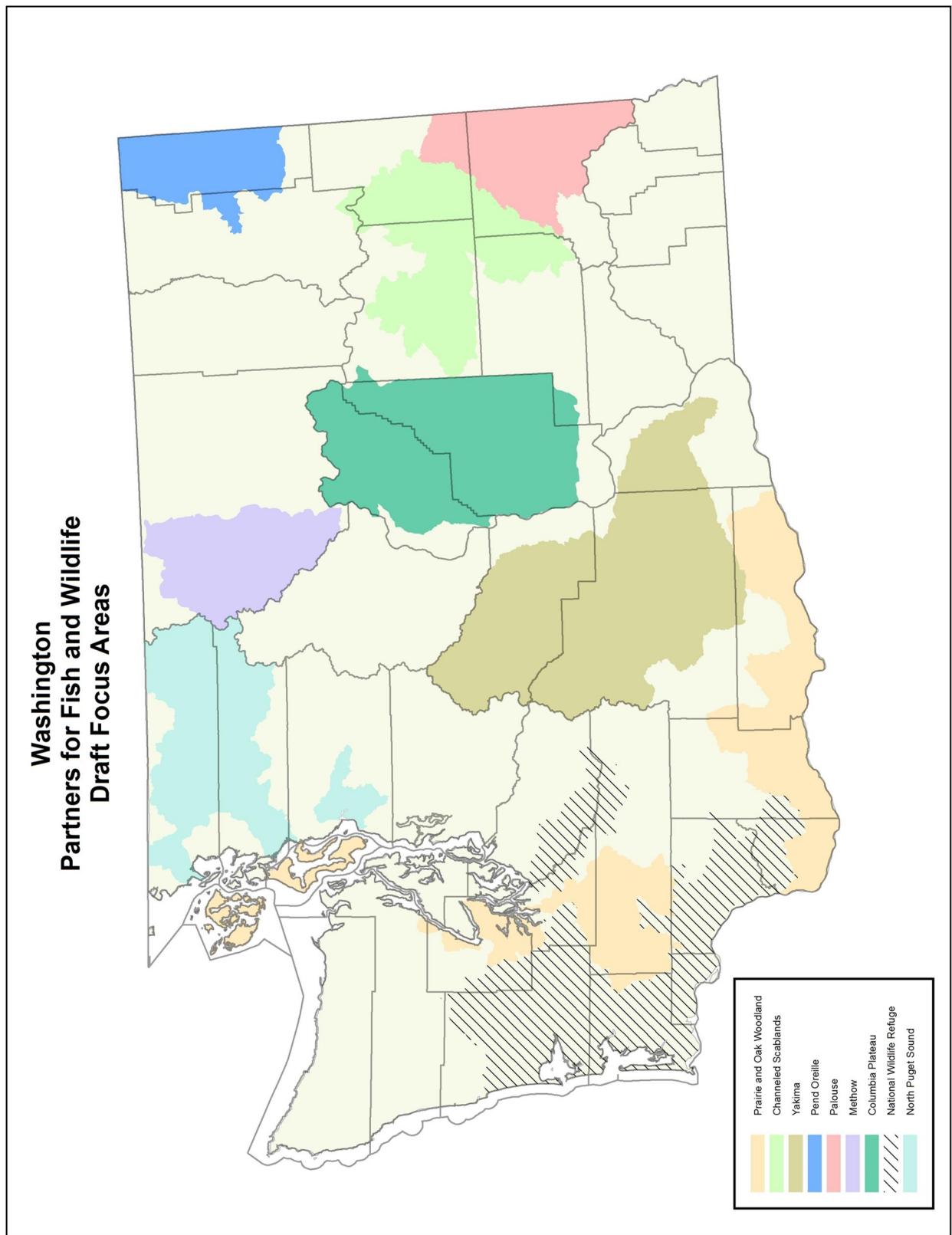
### **Focus Areas**

To maximize effectiveness the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, working with our partners, has identified strategic areas to focus our restoration efforts. While we can and do work in other areas of the state, we concentrate our efforts in areas identified on the maps below.

Map 1. Coastal and Chehalis Program Focus Areas in Western Washington (Draft for Coastal)



Map 2. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Focus Areas Washington (Draft)



## **Project Development Assistance**

Technical assistance in developing your project is available from the Service. We request you contact a biologist (Table 4) for guidance to questions you may have regarding development of your project and information. Service biologists will provide technical assistance and work closely with project sponsors; conduct site visits to project locations; and evaluate projects for Program eligibility. The Service, and project sponsors will work together to plan projects, coordinate with landowners and partners, hire and run crews, and monitor compliance and effectiveness.

Table 4. Program Contacts

<b>WFWO Program</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Puget Sound Coastal Program	Ginger Phalen	360-753-5819	<a href="mailto:ginger_phalen@fws.gov">ginger_phalen@fws.gov</a>
	Rich Carlson	360-753-5829	<a href="mailto:rich_carlson@fws.gov">rich_carlson@fws.gov</a>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in Columbia Plateau	Tim McCracken	509-665-3508 ext. 17	<a href="mailto:timothy_mccracken@fws.gov">timothy_mccracken@fws.gov</a>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife in Yakima and Klickitat Basins	Richard Visser	509-575-5848 ext. 257	<a href="mailto:rvisser@usbr.gov">rvisser@usbr.gov</a>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife & Fish Passage in Upper Columbia	Robes Parrish	509-548-2983	<a href="mailto:robert_m_parrish@fws.gov">robert_m_parrish@fws.gov</a>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in Eastern Washington	Carrie Cordova	509-893-8022	<a href="mailto:carrie_j_cordova@fws.gov">carrie_j_cordova@fws.gov</a>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in Western Washington	J.F. (Paco) Rodriguez	360-753-4066	<a href="mailto:julio_rodriguez@fws.gov">julio_rodriguez@fws.gov</a>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Prairie Restoration in Western Washington	Judy Lantor	360-753-6056	<a href="mailto:judy_lantor@fws.gov">judy_lantor@fws.gov</a>
Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program	Miranda Plumb	360-753-9560	<a href="mailto:miranda_plumb@fws.gov">miranda_plumb@fws.gov</a>
National Fish Passage Program in Western Washington	Miranda Plumb	360-753-9560	<a href="mailto:miranda_plumb@fws.gov">miranda_plumb@fws.gov</a>
Western Native Trout Initiative in Western Washington	Miranda Plumb	360-753-9560	<a href="mailto:miranda_plumb@fws.gov">miranda_plumb@fws.gov</a>

## **Restoration Strategy**

The Service focuses its efforts on actions that protect Federal trust species. Trust species include federally listed species, species of concern, migratory birds, and interjurisdictional fish. We place high value on projects that restore habitats important to federally listed species or species of concern. Go to [http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/species\\_new.html](http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/species_new.html) for Service listed species and species of concern. Species listed by National Marine Fisheries Service can be found at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa/fish.htm>.

The Programs listed above benefit federal trust species, and their habitats through on-the-ground restoration, public education, assessment, and research. With the goal of restoring ecosystem or watershed health, we emphasize protecting and reconnecting functioning habitats and engaging in efforts that sustain and restore the physical processes that form and maintain habitats (rather than treating symptoms caused by altered processes). With the goal of recovering at-risk species, we emphasize undertaking actions consistent with plans that guide species recovery or that lead to the reduction in threats to species.

There is a sequence of events that most effectively leads to the restoration of ecosystem or species health. The first step is to assess the status of, and impacts to, ecosystem processes. Second, information from the assessment should be used to develop a restoration plan that provides specific prescriptions for protection and restoration activities. The restoration plan should give top priority to protecting functioning habitat and to reconnecting fragmented functioning habitats. Efforts to actively restore habitat should target areas with low to moderate disturbance, for which we have the best information about anthropogenic impacts.

We also believe the most effective approach to aiding at-risk species is by implementing conservation actions identified by species-specific plans to recover listed species, or to preclude the listing of species under the Endangered Species Act. These documents include Federal and State recovery plans, species actions plans, or species assessment forms prepared by species experts and agencies responsible for protecting rare species. Projects consistent with these documents are a priority for the Service.

### **Climate Change**

The Service is committed to considering how species and habitats are affected by climate change. We seek projects that help species adapt to climate change and promote projects that are resilient to climate change.

Expected climate change impacts in Washington State are: changes in temperature, precipitation, snowpack, and hydrology; increases in intensity and frequency of fire, storm surges, and impacts from sea level rise; and shifts in the distribution and range of native and non-native species.

Your project information will need to describe how your project promotes species adaptation and is resilient to climate change. Adaptation and resiliency may result from increased habitat connectivity, securing transitional habitats, restoring refugia, reducing fire risk, protecting water quality and quantity, restoring processes that form and maintain habitat, and protecting habitats from invasion by non-native species.

More information on change is available at:

<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/changepnw.html>

<http://cses.washington.edu/cig/res/ia/waccia.shtml>

<http://www.biodiversity.wa.gov/documents/WA-CC-report-final.pdf>



## **Types of Projects We Typically Fund**

**Subject to specific Program requirements (see Table 2.)**

### **Riparian and Wetland**

- Silviculture treatments (conifer release or interplanting, brush control)
- Reduction of livestock impacts (installation of fencing, crossings, and off-channel watering devices)
- Woody debris supplementation for amphibian and riparian dependent species habitat diversity
- Non-native plant and animal removal/control
- Native plant establishment/diversification
- Fill removal
- Hydrologic regime improvements (dike removal or , ditch plugging, drainage tile removal)
- Native species captive breeding, propagation, introduction, re-establishment
- Predator control to benefit native species recovery

### **Instream**

- Fish passage improvements at man-made barriers  
Irrigation diversion fish screening
- Culvert replacements to improve fish passage using WDFW Stream Simulation or No-slope
- design criteria
- Culvert and associated fill removal to restore stream channel configuration
- Nutrient cycling supplementation (such as salmon carcass deployment)
- Placement of key wood pieces to induce large wood structures/jams
- Native species captive breeding, propagation, introduction, re-establishment
- Non-native plant and animal removal/control
- Predator control to benefit native species recovery

### **Upland**

- Road abandonment, decommissioning, obliteration
- Road drainage improvements and storm proofing
- Re-establishment of historic contours (sidecast pullback, fill of cuts, swale re-creation)
- Habitat diversity activities (creation of cavities, bat slits, snags, coarse woody debris)
- Silvicultural treatments (oak release, thinning/planting to benefit wildlife habitat)
- Non-native plant and animal removal/control
- Native plant establishment/diversification/enhancement
- Reduction of livestock impacts (installation of fencing to reduce competition with wildlife)
- Native species captive breeding, propagation, introduction, re-establishment
- Predator control to benefit native species recovery

### **Assessment and Research**

- Pre- and post-project monitoring (photo-documentation and data collection)
- Watershed or reach level assessments to identify and support restoration opportunities

### Outreach and Education

- Workshops and site tours for stakeholders
- Educational outreach, displays, brochures, signage, and newsletters
- School teacher training and classroom environmental education

### **Types of Projects We Do Not Fund**

- Pond creation
- Cleanup of Federal or State designated environmental contaminant sites
- Community beautification and/or recreational access
- Fines/penalties due to non-compliance with Federal, State, or local laws
- Fish passage using WDFW Hydraulic design criteria
- Gravel bar mining
- Gravel trap development or maintenance
- Improvement of natural resources for commercial or private profit
- Land acquisitions, conservation easements, or appraisals
- Required Habitat Conservation Plan activities
- Required mitigation
- Streambank hardening (rip-rap, bulkheads, or other armoring)
- Structure-based restoration planned without primary consideration of habitat protection, habitat
- connectivity, or habitat-forming processes

### **Cost Share Definition**

Cost share, as used in this Notification of Funding Availability, is defined as the amount or percentage of the total project cost that the cooperator (or their partners) must contribute towards the project. For example: You estimate your project will cost \$26,000, and the Program you are applying for requires a 25% minimum cost share. The most you could request from the Service would be \$19,500, and you, or your partners, would have to provide the remaining \$6,500. For all Programs, if applicants provide cost share higher than the 25% minimum, a project is more likely to be supported by the WFWO.

**Cash:** Funds that have been secured or are pending final approval from Federal, State, or private sources will be counted as eligible cost share. Project sponsors must differentiate between secured and pending cash cost share amounts.

**In-Kind:** Eligible in-kind cost share types include those services committed from other Federal, State, or private sources such as: labor, use of personnel equipment, surveying, or other contributions that would otherwise qualify for Program funds.

Ineligible in-kind cost share types include: value of the land, costs associated with unrelated or ineligible projects, and work performed by WFWO Service personnel.

### **Program Information**

#### **Puget Sound Coastal Program**

The Puget Sound Coastal Program (PSCP) is part of the Service's National Coastal Program. In 1991, the PSCP was established to protect, restore, and enhance the natural resources of

Washington's coastal ecosystems. We work closely with partners to conserve fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats in Puget Sound, an "estuary of national significance." Partnerships with other agencies, Native American Tribes, citizens, and organizations are emphasized. The PSCP has identified geographic focus areas. These areas are: North Puget Sound and the Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca; South Puget Sound and Hood Canal (see Figure 1, Focus Areas in Western Washington). Projects occurring outside of the focus area boundaries are eligible for funding; however, we prioritize partnership and project development within the focus areas.

#### Goals:

- Restore and protect coastal habitats through completion of interagency projects; provide technical assistance in the restoration process; and provide cost share where appropriate.
- Collect and develop information on the status of and threats to fish and wildlife and their habitats in Puget Sound and the Washington Coast.
- Use outreach and education to improve stewardship and conservation of Washington's coastal resources. Increase understanding and prevent the introduction and spread of coastal and marine non-native, invasive species.
- Support the strategic priorities of the Puget Sound Partnership and the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project.

#### Types of projects preferred for funding for PSCP:

Due to the highly developed and/or impacted state of most of our coastal resources in Washington, projects tend to be large and multi-partner in nature. Our primary focus is on-the-ground projects within the above mentioned focus areas. Example projects can include:

- Tide gate or dike removal to restore tidal hydrology to estuarine wetlands,
- Protection and restoration of estuarine and near-shore habitat,
- Removal of derelict fishing gear, and
- Protection and restoration of unique coastal upland habitats and coastal habitats that support federally listed species or species of concern.

### **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program**

The PFW Program is a national, voluntary habitat restoration program that provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners, Tribes and other conservation partners. The PFW Program focuses on restoring habitat for migratory birds, inter-jurisdictional fish, and declining plant and animal species. The PFW Program has identified geographic focus areas. These areas are: the Puget Trough; Southwest Washington; the Strait of Juan de Fuca; the Columbia Plateau; the Palouse Prairie, the Methow watershed, the upper Columbia Basin Refuge Focus Area, the Pend Oreille Watershed and the Yakima watershed (see map 2.). Projects occurring outside of these focus area boundaries are eligible for funding; however, we prioritize partnership and project development within the focus areas. Priority habitats in Washington include forests, wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams, riparian areas, prairies, and shrub-steppe.

**The Partners Program cannot fund work on state or federal property but can collaborate with state and federal agencies.**

#### Goals:

- Develop partnerships through proactive, voluntary cooperative efforts with private landowners, nongovernmental organizations, other agencies, and Native Americans to restore habitat on private lands.
- Reestablish habitat function through restoration and/or enhancement activities;

- Improve water quality;
- Provide corridors and decrease impediments to native fish and wildlife migration;
- Enhance the environmental integrity of the National Wildlife Refuge System by restoring private lands that influence habitat on Refuge lands.

Types of projects preferred for funding for PFW:

Projects may include, but are not limited to:

- planting native trees and shrubs and other vegetation;
- installing fencing and off-stream livestock watering facilities;
- restoring wetland hydrology;
- removing stream blockages; and
- controlling invasive plants.

## **Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program**

Significant runs of salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout have declined throughout the Chehalis Basin, the second largest watershed in Washington. Commercial and sport fishing have greatly diminished in the area. The general goal of the CFRP is “to optimize natural salmon and steelhead production while maintaining the existing genetic adaptation of wild spawners and allowing the highest compatible level of hatchery production.” The CFRP works toward the recovery of Chehalis Basin fisheries by forming partnerships with private landowners, non-profit organizations, and local, tribal, and State agencies, and by implementing habitat restoration, habitat assessment, and public education projects.

Objectives:

- Improve water quality in Inner Grays Harbor and the Upper Chehalis River Basin.
- Restore or improve natural spawning and rearing habitat.
- Extend the range of wild spawning anadromous fish to achieve optimum habitat use.
- Increase public awareness of fisheries habitat restoration values in the Chehalis Basin.

Types of projects preferred for funding for CFRP:

Projects may include, but are not limited to the following: On the ground projects in watersheds that are in relatively good condition, have ongoing restoration, and that have a completed watershed assessment will receive priority. Assessment projects that fill identified data gaps in existing watershed assessments will receive priority. Outreach projects that are established and successful or that are innovative will receive priority.

## **National Fish Passage Program**

The National Fish Passage Program is a voluntary program to restore native fish and other aquatic species to self-sustaining levels by reconnecting habitat that has been fragmented by man-made barriers. Fish passage projects restore unimpeded flows and fish movement by removing barriers or providing ways for aquatic species to bypass them. Projects are prioritized based upon the benefits to species and the geographical area. Typical projects include barrier culvert removal or replacement with a fish passable culvert or bridge and re-opening oxbow and off channel habitats. Typical funding amounts range from \$15,000 to \$80,000 with a minimum 25% cost share requested.

Types of projects preferred for funding under the NFPP are those that:

- Show demonstrable ecological benefits for Federal trust species.
- Exhibit permanence of fish passage benefits.
- Make use of the most current scientific knowledge and proven technology.
- Address objectives outlined in approved management plans.

Although funding decisions for these two programs are made by our Regional Office, local offices help with the development and evaluation of projects eligible for NFPP and WNTI. For assistance and information on the NFPP and WNTI programs please contact:

**Western Washington:**

Miranda Plumb

(360) 753-9560

[miranda\\_plumb@fws.gov](mailto:miranda_plumb@fws.gov)

**Eastern Washington:**

Robes Parrish

509-548-2983

[robert\\_m\\_parrish@fws.gov](mailto:robert_m_parrish@fws.gov)

More information on the NFPP is available at the following internet site:

<http://pacific.fws.gov/fisheries/fishpassage/>

**Western Native Trout Initiative**

The Western Native Trout Initiative is a fish habitat partnership within the National Fish Habitat Action Plan ([www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org)). It is a nationwide strategy that harnesses the energies, expertise, and existing partnerships of State and Federal agencies and conservation organizations. It is a non-regulatory, science-based, cooperative program to fund conservation actions for western native trout. The goals of the Program include:

- protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems,
- prevent further degradation of fish and aquatic habitats, and
- increase self-sustaining aquatic systems that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species.

Projects are prioritized based upon the benefits to species and the geographical area. Funding decisions are made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Regional Office. More information is at the following internet site: <http://www.westernnativetrout.org/>